# Get ready for BYOD

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# **Summary**

The uses of electronic devices are growing rapidly. There are many students who own different types of electronic devices. When students go to school, teachers already know that their students have these devices with them. Since students are familiar with using the different types of devices; they should be allowed to use them for educational purposes. In the article, are you ready for BYOD; Ron Bird seen the number of student who actually bought their devices to school. He seen that the demand for students using their devices were pretty high so he decided that they would have to support the fact that students are using the devices. In the article, “Are you ready for BYOD?” the author David Raths (2012) discussed issues on BYOD before starting to use this process. He stated that mobile communications are converging with IT infrastructures through the advent of "bring your own device" policies that allow employees of corporations or government agencies to access internal information with their personally owned devices. He inquired the question “Do you have the expertise on staff to design and manage the expansion of a wireless network?” It is important to have quality staff to design a network in which users to can access the network using their own device. It would be convenient to have an effective network for users so that there wouldn’t be any issues at hand when users are bringing their own devices. There were school districts who were interviewed about their views and strategies on BYOD. The author explained how David Fry who is the district technology coordinator at Hanover Public Schools. He discussed how most consultants recommend placing BYOD traffic on a dedicated network, which is separate from the districts network so there is no chance of those devices assessing budget or human resources data. In his school district, they have two different wireless networks. They have one for district equipment and one for personal electronic devices.

**Critique**

I know that students have the capability to work with different types of electronic devices but it is how the students’ use it. As educators we cannot assume that student automatically know how to use these devices. We must always remember that all students do not own these devices. I found that the districts will have to spend a lot of money to have different wireless networks. I think it is a good idea for school districts to have the different wireless networks for users to bring their own devices. What could school districts do who cannot afford to have different networks for students and staff? BYOD has been very beneficial for some school systems. However, I feel that it is not 100% reliable because it can have its downfall as well as school districts providing students with devices to use in the classroom.

# Reference

Raths, David. (2012). Are you ready for BYOD? *The Journal*, 39 (4), 30.